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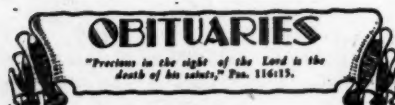
**More Information**

In the article and accompanying cut of the new church at Laurel, Mississippi, which appeared on page twelve of last week's Evangel, due credit was not given the two splendid men who engineered its erection and the good people of Laurel, without whose support and help it could not have been built. Rev. Colon T. Dunn and his assistant pastor, Rev. Cecil Knight, are responsible for the completion of this \$40,000 structure. Reverend Knight became pastor when Reverend Dunn accepted the youth work in Alabama.

**Notice**

To Whom It May Concern:

My address has been changed from 54 Carlton Drive, Akron 12, Ohio, to 1701 Yale Avenue, N. W., Canton, Ohio.  
—R. C. Cook.



**OBITUARIES**

"Precious in the sight of the Lord is the death of his saints." Ps. 116:15.

**CANGHORN**

At 2:15 p. m., Sunday, February 1, 1948, little Bruce Canghorn, age ten years and six months, departed from life to be with Jesus. He was the son

of Mr. James Canghorn and Mrs. Marie (Roberts) Canghorn. Besides his parents, he is survived by three sisters and two brothers. The funeral was conducted by Rev. Leonard B. Brown, pastor of the Kimberlin Heights Church of God, assisted by Rev. A. P. Monday, a member and minister of the Kimberlin Heights church. Pray for the bereaved family.—Rev. Leonard Brown, Neuberts, Tenn.

**COOK**

On March 13, 1948, Sister Jewell Cook was seriously burned and she left this world on the 22d day of March. She was a faithful Christian and a soul winner for Jesus, always interested in the Lord's work and took a great interest in the young people's meeting. She was a faithful member of the Church of God, giving her heart to God at the age of ten. She lived for God eleven years. Don't forget to pray for her husband and little baby girl, Elaine. She will be missed, but her Christian influence will live on.—Rev. Floyd Johnson, Pastor.

**REED**

Sister Jessie Omelia Reed, age fifty-eight years, passed away from this life January 20, 1948. She was a faithful member of the Church of God at Pratt City, Alabama, and is greatly missed by the church and all who knew her. She is survived by her husband, three sons, four daughters, and a host of relatives and friends. Funeral services were conducted from Pratt City Church of God. Ministers officiating were her pastor, W. Burle Sumner, and the state overseer, Rev. J. T. Roberts. May God's blessings be upon those left behind.—W. Burle Sumner, Pastor.

**TESTIMONIES**

**Somebody Prayed for Me**

SWAINSBORO, Ga.—I am praising Him for divine healing as great today as when He was on earth. See Luke 7:12-14. I was sick for twelve years seeking to get well by taking the doctor's medicines and holding on to the world; but somebody prayed, and God convicted my soul of sin. I was in bed, and there were days I was unable to be up because of high blood pressure, nervousness, sinus trouble, kidney trouble, and swimming of the head. I was almost dead, when somebody prayed, and I looked up from an open heart and said, "My Lord and my God, have pity and mercy on my soul

of sin and turn my pleasure of the old wicked world into the great love for a home where I can go when I move away, and heal my body." My dear mother, Mrs. W. C. Rampey, Lakeland, Ga., prayed the prayer of faith and held on for me, fasted and cried at night when I would be at a show or playing cards in some friend's home just to pass the time. I had all kinds of time to waste then, but the days are not long enough now.

Backslider, God still loves you and somebody is fasting and praying for you, too. Read for yourself and be sure you count the cost this time, as I did; read 1 Corinthians, fourth chapter, and it will show you how you can stand. Don't put off salvation any longer.

To those who are still sick: just lay your burdens at Jesus' feet, have faith, and God will heal you. I trust God with soul and body. I pay my tenth in all I have, and God wonderfully blesses me for it. Mother and I are the only ones in our big family who are called holiness. Let us do something to help others.—Mrs. Allie Glen Newman.

**Whole Family Blessed**

I thank the Lord for what He has done for me and my family. He has blessed us all.—Effie Sapp, Largo, Fla.

**ONE-MINUTE SERMON**

**FAILURE?**

In the eyes of many of the leaders at Jerusalem, Jesus was an utter failure. He walked among men and spoke of angels and heavenly mansions. He healed many who were afflicted, and talked of a city where people know no sickness. Yet, the leaders condemned Jesus to die on a cross.

On the cross He bowed His head and uttered, "It is finished." These were not the words of a defeated soldier, but rather a glorious proclamation of the completion of a tremendous task. His sacrifice provided means for weary, bruised, bleeding souls, assailed by Satan, to plunge into that Fountain and be free from all their guilty stains. No, He was not a failure. The cross on which He was nailed, has decayed; likewise those who condemned Him have perished; yet thank God, the One who was nailed there—He LIVES!—Manuel F. Campbell.

# ▶ EDITORIALS...

## COVER PICTURE

Here is the American Military Cemetery far away in Italy. One is impressed with the uniformity of the graves and the white crosses and "Old Glory"—the beloved flag that waves over them. Many thousands of our own boys paid the supreme sacrifice on foreign battlefields and are there awaiting the great morning of the resurrection.

When we think of the trials, the tests, of these during those most distressful times, we are made to realize the great need of consecrated ministers and loved ones, as well as our chaplains who were there by their sides during every conflict. The chaplains rendered an invaluable service through all the years. There isn't a soldier or veteran today who hasn't known the touch of a man of the Corps of Chaplains.

May the memory of those noble men fallen in battle inspire us to do our best to promote the cause of righteousness ever here in the home land.

## CHAPLAINS

The Department of the Army at Washington reports that on Thursday, July 29, 1948, the Corps of Chaplains will be 173 years old—within a few days of being as old as the United States Army itself.

Today there are still 1,097 chaplains of all faiths on duty with the Army around the world, after a World War II peak strength of 8,171 in July, 1945.

Chaplains in the last great war were awarded 2,653 decorations and 1,543 chaplains received them. Eighteen of them received the Distinguished Service Cross and 167 rated the Silver Star. A total of 77 of them were killed in action, five died in a Japanese prison camp, and 253 were wounded in action.

In late May, this year, the four chaplains who sacrificed their lives when the S. S. Dorchester sank on February 3, 1943, after being torpedoed off Greenland, were commemorated on one of the issues of the 3-cent stamps of the Post Office Department, a gesture to the men in uniform. These four chaplains are George L. Fox and Clark V. Poling, Protestants; John P. Washington, Roman Catholic; Alexander D. Goode, Jewish. The stamps were released by the Post Office Department of Washington, D. C., May 28. At the FIRST DAY SALES ceremonies held at the White House the nearest of kin of the FOUR CHAPLAINS were honored guests.

## 25,000 BIBLES MAKE GIANT ARCH

MIAMI BEACH, Fla.—(RNS)—Twenty-five thousand Bibles, weighing twenty-three tons, were used to build a giant arch over the entrance to a local hotel where the Gideons International held a cabinet meeting.

Members of the Miami Ministerial Association assisted the Gideons in constructing the arch and later attended a mass dedication of the Bibles, which are to be distributed to hotels here. The Bibles constitute the largest single gift ever made by the Gideons.

## MEMORIAL DAY, or DECORATION DAY

May 30th is the day of remembrance, a day of decorating the graves and monuments of our loved ones—heroes.

Armistice Day commemorates the silencing of the noise of battle, and V-E and V-J Days stress overwhelming vic-

tory, while Memorial Day brings to mind the individuals—the men and women who, dressed in the uniform of our country, waved farewell to dear ones and went out never to return, to fight for the liberties they held dearer than life itself.

Since the first Memorial Day, a war for Cuban independence and two world wars have taken their toll of our nation's battle heroes. Americans from all walks of life, men of different races and creeds, have fought shoulder to shoulder and died together. On the tombstones of our heroes one reads the names—the family names which have definitely come from many different lands. These people make up our beloved America.

These who have served their country and given their lives really did not lose their lives for they gave themselves as their contribution to the cost of defeating the enemy and winning the peace.

These heroes gave their lives that we might live securely. Even on the battlefield, they hoped that they might return to their loved ones and things they left behind them. They looked forward for better homes, a better country, and a stronger nation. They made the supreme sacrifice, and it is very fitting that we should remember them on Memorial Day.

## SAM MORRIS BRINGS BOOTLEGGING UP TO DATE

Sam Morris says, "The biggest piece of fraud that ever was put over on the American public was when they put over repeal with the pretense that it would do away with bootlegging. You have more bootlegging in wet states than you have in prohibition states and here are the facts to prove it."

Sam's figures for eleven states on stills wrecked and bootleggers arrested come from the 1945 record of the Federal Alcohol Tax Unit, with Kansas as a dry state.

	Stills Broken Up	Bootleggers Caught
Kansas	4	71
Missouri	7	111
New Jersey	44	109
Maryland	67	172
Pennsylvania	72	344
New York	184	450
Virginia	492	650
Alabama	847	1,255
South Carolina	1,158	599
North Carolina	1,485	1,450
Georgia	1,645	1,666
Totals	6,005	6,877
Dry Kansas	4	71
Eleven Wet States	6,001	6,806

"There is but one thing ministers should do today; namely, preach the gospel; the whole gospel; the vicarious, blood-bought gospel of Jesus Christ. Preach it so convincingly that the sinner will believe that He is Christ, very God of very God. Preach so powerfully that the saint will increasingly recognize Him as Lord and Master, the absolute ruler of conscience and conduct."—Doctor M. A. Mathews.



# Report of Southwestern Youth Congress

J. L. Summers

The first Southwestern Youth Congress convened March 24-26, in the J. Frank Norris Temple, in downtown Fort Worth, Texas. Services opened Wednesday night, with an estimated congregation of fifteen hundred. The welcome address was given by Rev. E. O. Kerce state overseer of Texas. The youth convention was formally opened by Rev. Ralph E. Williams, National Youth Director. Brother Williams commended the workers of this district for their united efforts and large crowd they had brought to this great youth convention. He said, "I am really surprised at such a large attendance at this first Southwestern Youth Congress."

Reverend John L. Byrd led the congregation in prayer, and the evening message was brought by Rev. E. C. Clark, on "Youth's Decision." Brother Clark emphasized the need of youth making a decision and then keeping that decision, stating that those who pioneered the way before the youth of today had to suffer persecutions, go without sufficient clothing, and sometimes go hungry in order to carry the gospel of the Church of God to the various states of the Union. After the message, Brother Williams called for the young people to come forward and reconsecrate their lives to the service of God. Many young people responded, kneeling around the altar in that vast auditorium. Their prayers blended together as they sought the face of God and the help we need for the future work of the Church of God youth.

The early Thursday morning service for youth consecration was conducted by Rev. Bascom Stanley, state overseer of New Mexico. He was there with the glory of God in his soul, and led those young people in an old-time prayer meeting. The power of God fell and the young people were encouraged to pray more. The ten o'clock service was conducted by Rev. Charles Conn, of Missouri, and by the time this service got well under way, young and old alike were shouting the praises of God. Brother Conn just seemed to know what to add in between each song and each message.

## YOUTH EVANGELISM DISCUSSED

The first speaker on youth evangelism was Rev. Bobby Barger, youth director of Arkansas. His subject was "Youth Evangelism in Local Youth Revivals." Brother Barger emphasized the need of youth revivals, challenging the pastors to turn one revival each year over to their young people. "They'll get the job done," he declared. He also advised that these youth revivals should be filled with the power and Spirit of God and the Holy Ghost. "This is what it will take to save the youth in these last days," Bobby said. After the first message, special singing was rendered by the Leadwood, Missouri, Trio and the Arkansas Trio. While they sang, the glory of God seemed to hover down throughout that vast building.

Next along the line of youth evangelism was a talk by Rev. Elmo Madewell, youth director of Oklahoma. His subject was "Youth Evangelism in Local Y.P.E. Services." Brother Madewell started out by saying every youth service should be filled with the presence of God, and before he had been speaking long, the crowd shouted until he had to stand by and allow them to give vent to the great Spirit of God that was blessing their souls. He then took a course through the Bible, using as examples different men who had lived for God and "when they were in need God delivered them," he said. Wave after wave of glory fell as Brother Madewell delivered his soul to the young people of eight Southwestern states. Special singing was rendered by the Iowa Park, Texas, Trio and the Fort Worth Quartet.

"Youth Evangelism in Local Sunday Schools" was discussed by Rev. G. M. Gilbert, of Electra, Texas. Brother Gilbert brought valuable statistics of what the Sunday School had accomplished down through the centuries. He declared that eighty per cent of all church members came from the Sunday Schools, and ninety to ninety-five percent of all ministers and missionaries came from the Sunday Schools. He quoted a leading statesman, "If you want to change entire civilization over night, begin with the children."

After special singing by Brother

Dillo of Leadwood, Missouri, the message of the morning was delivered by John L. Byrd, overseer of Louisiana. Brother Byrd's sermon was very timely. He advised young ministers how to be successful. This message was straight and enjoyed by all, and occasionally was interrupted by those who enjoy straight preaching shouting out praises to God.

The subject of discussion in the afternoon was "Sunday School in Action," conducted by Rev. D. W. Dowdy. "Organization of Sunday Schools" was discussed by Rev. Alfred Nicholson, state youth director of Louisiana. Brother Nicholson emphasized the need of each Sunday School being organized. Many fine suggestions as to the organization of the schools were given. This service was conducted by Floyd Ramsey, and he did a fine job. Plenty of special singing was rendered by Rev. O. R. White, Leadwood, Missouri, and others.

The Mississippi youth director, Brother Gene Christenbury, spoke in his unique way on "Entertainment in the Sunday Schools." Many good things were said on this subject.

Rev. E. O. Kerce, state overseer of Texas, got down to business and spoke right to the point on "Sunday School in Action." This timely message made us wonder what would be accomplished in our Sunday Schools if we had wide-awake pastors in every church.

The Thursday night session was conducted by Rev. Clifford Bridges, of San Antonio, Texas. The power of God was present. Oh how the "glory" rang throughout the building. As special and congregational singing was rendered, one could see that this service was going to be great.

When Judge McDonnell arose to speak on "Juvenile Delinquency," he stated that such enthusiasm in religion, as he had seen manifested in that service, is what it will take to curb juvenile delinquency. He stated also that although he was of another faith, he liked to attend services where one can feel God's presence. The judge spoke briefly but gave some fine information.

Rev. H. L. Chesser, Assistant General Overseer, brought the evening message, and in this message he told how he had come up in the Church of God. "You can live for God in your youth," he said. This message found its place in the hearts of the people who had

already been blessed, until many shouted and ran around the large auditorium. At the close of Brother Chesser's message many came to the altar.

The Friday morning service was conducted by Rev. Floyd Ramsey. Rev. E. L. Simmons, President of Lee College, spoke at ten o'clock Friday morning. Brother Simmons gave much valuable information about the College. By the time this message was finished, we were all prouder of our school and college than before.

After some good special singing by various Southland singers, Rev. L. L. Hughes brought the morning message. "Be strong in the Lord, and in the power of His might" was the text he chose, and he spoke on "The Need of the Youth to Be Strong in the Lord." Brother Hughes' message blessed the hearts of all present, and was also interrupted by the congregation, at times, with some hearty shouts from heaven.

The afternoon session was conducted by Rev. Doyle McCoy. Willie Lee Darter, of Electra, Texas, spoke on the "Value of D. V. B. S." She stated that the D. V. B. S. is just a lifesaver to us, that we may make up to our youth some of the teaching we owe them. Many more good thoughts were brought out.

A youth testimony service was conducted, and it was a great blessing to listen to those young people tell how God had saved them and how determined they were to go on and do what God would have them do. Shouts of glory filled the building.

Rev. Floyd Ramsey testified of what a blessing this meeting had been to him. He then turned to the Psalms for his scripture reading, and entered into a heated sermon to both young and old. Many "glory's" echoed throughout the building as this message was delivered.

Friday night, the devotional service started off with a shout. The great band that played throughout the convention seemed to be at their best. Your reporter conducted the service and my soul was so filled with God's presence I felt like running through a troop and leaping over a wall. Some good special singing was rendered by Brother and Sister Mooneyham, who are preparing to go to Africa as missionaries, also by the Sweetwater, Texas, Trio.

Rev. Ralph E. Williams spoke on "A Challenge to Youth." In this message he challenged the youth of the

Church of God to take advantage of the great opportunity afforded them. He emphasized the need of consecrated youth workers in the Church of God. He asked the Sunday School and Y. P. E. workers present to raise their hands. "This challenge is to you," he said. "Go back on the field and do the best in whatever position you are. If you are a janitor, make a good one; if a teacher, make a good one."

Brother Simmons spoke to us on the thought of God's riches toward His people, naming Christ as the Cashier, God as the Banker, location of the Bank in heaven, capital of the bank as all riches of heaven. He made mention of God's promises to us, which served to increase our faith and build us up for the battle ahead. This concluding service was wonder-

ful. During the singing the power fell and a great majority of the people present were blessed in some way. Yes, the people were well paid for their efforts, and we are looking forward to another youth convention in the great Southwest next year. If you'll pray for the workers out here, and give a helping hand, we'll have something greater to show you in the next few years as to the progress in the youth work and the Church of God.

Note: If any one who sang or took part otherwise is not mentioned in this article, please forgive us. We have done our best to mention all, but no doubt have failed to get notes on everything. We appreciate everyone who helped in any way, and say "God bless you."

## Another Warrior Fallen



DURBIN

On Wednesday, March 31, at Cantwell, Missouri, a number of ministers, members, and friends gathered at the local Church of God to pay their final respects and tributes to Brother Matthew Herman Durbin, a great man of God and one of our beloved ministers in the State.

Matthew Herman Durbin was born on November 9, 1879, at Rich Woods, Missouri, and died March 28, 1948. He was converted and united with the Church of God at a very young age, and served God with fervor and sincerity his entire life. He was a bishop at the time of his death.

Brother Durbin was a man of respect and much loved in every place

he lived and worked. He was residing in Pittsburg, Kansas, and his passing brought much sorrow and regret to the people of the community. He had pastored the local Pittsburg church for two years. He had also pastored churches in the following places: Lamar, Dudley, Leadwood, and Bonne Terre, Missouri.

In Brother Durbin's early years, he met and married Miss Sophia Decue. To this union were born five children, two of whom died in infancy. Raymond, Joe and Albert, his sons all reside in the Missouri Leadbelt. His first wife preceded him in death in March, 1930, and on April 29, 1934, he was united in marriage to Miss Nellie Ralph.

The funeral services were conducted by Reverend Britt, pastor of the church in Cantwell, Brother Durbin's home church, and Reverend Berry, pastor at Pittsburg. The state overseer of Missouri, Rev. Wilma Henry, and the state overseer of Kansas, Rev. W. E. Dowdy, also took part. The Free Will Baptist quartet sang.

I am sure we shall miss this man of God greatly, as he lived a life for God that speaks for itself; but we can rejoice that he is enjoying the blessing of the Lord in the paradise of God.

His remains were carried to the St. Francois Memorial Park for his final resting place. There the committal was given by Reverend Berry and prayer was offered by Rev. Charles Conn, pastor of the Leadwood Church of God.



A

# CHRISTIAN

Rev. Hilton Vail,  
Pastor,  
Jal, New Mexico



Acts 11:26c, "And the disciples were called Christians first in Antioch."

Nineteen hundred years ago, a great city, Antioch, stood on the bank of the Orontes River, about twelve miles inland from the northeast corner of the Mediterranean Sea. Through the city trailed a wide avenue paved part of the way with marble slabs, flanked with trees and colonnades, and covered promenades where people might walk in shelter from the sunshine and storm.

The city was renowned throughout the ancient world for its prosperity, and was attractive as a beautiful place of residence and a pleasure resort. There were beautiful groves and temples dedicated to the pagan gods, which were worshiped by the people of the city. In the groves of Daphne were fountains, statues, and the great temple of Apollo. It was in this temple that in August each year a religious festival was held which became a carnival of licentious freedom. Arts, music, and dancing enlivened the hours by day and night. Thousands gave their whole time to the pursuit of pleasure. Such gaiety as the people of Antioch enjoyed in that day was associated with their religion. Religion does not demand a long face, but it does require clean living.

In this great city of Antioch, there was a small group of people called Christians. To be a Christian means that one is Christlike. The peculiarities that set apart the Christians from the others, no doubt, were very distinct. They did not attend the

festivals, dances, races, and other worldly places of amusement, but were often gathered together in a place of worship, exhorting one another, singing psalms, hymns, and rejoicing in their Lord and Jesus Christ. The distinction between the Christian and the non-Christian is as sharp today as it was in Antioch in the days of Paul. God help us to be real Christians. We may have to suffer. "But rejoice, inasmuch as ye are partakers of Christ's sufferings; that when his glory shall be revealed, ye may be glad also with exceeding joy. If ye be reproached for the name of Christ, happy are ye; for the spirit of glory and of God resteth upon you: on their part he is evil spoken of, but on your part he is glorified. But let none of you suffer as a murderer, or as a thief, or as an evildoer, or as a busybody in other men's matters. Yet, if any man suffer as a Christian, let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." So says 1 Peter 4:13-16.

Thank God, we can be Christians today and live a righteous and godly, separated, Spirit-filled, overcoming, victorious life. Those who merely profess would like to accuse the real Christian and pull him down to their own level. They smoke their cigarettes drink a nip, play cards, bet on horse races, attend prize fights, attend theaters, and try to see just how near like the world they can be. They backbite, grumble, gossip, grouch, complain, and find fault with the preacher and everyone else, and then go any length to keep their name on a church record.

My friend, you may cry to high heaven about being saved, sanctified,

and filled with the Holy Ghost; you may disturb every district pastor, state overseer, and even the Assistant and General Overseers to keep from being disfellowshipped from the church, but if you are not a real Christian you will never get inside the city of God.

In 2 Cor. 6:17, Paul tells us to come out from among the unrighteous and be separate. There is no fellowship of righteousness with unrighteousness; there is no communion of light with darkness; there is no concord of Christ with Belial; there is no agreement of the temple of God with that of idols. There is no place for a Christian to have fellowship with unbelievers. The line of demarcation is as plain today as it ever was. Over half of the New Testament was written as instructions to the Christian. I think of many scriptures which I would like to quote for you at this time, but space is limited, so let us consider just one more. In Matt. 5:16, Jesus says, "Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven." If you are a Christian, people will know it. Your light will shine and the people will see your good works. The hypocrites and professors are known too. Their lives and their works are known. They may shout loud, jump high, and testify long, but it has been said, and rightly so, "What you do speaks so loud I can't hear what you say!"

I conclude by saying, "I thank God we can live so that no man can rightly point a finger of accusation at us." God help us to do so, that we may all have an abundant entrance into the city of God. Amen.

## A GOOD BUILDING

FLOYD D. CAREY

LUKE 6:48

I shall liken our spiritual life unto a building for the habitation of man in this life. A house is no stronger than its foundation. If your structure has a good foundation, it will stand against the winds and rains, and will be a place of refuge in time of storm; but if it is erected of faulty material, in the hour of need it will fall in ruins around you, leaving you to the mercy of the elements.

In the 1926 hurricane in South Florida, we saw the truth of these words fulfilled. Many houses that

were brought on trucks to the site they were to occupy, and set upon the sand were demolished when the wind and rains beat against them, and many were blown entirely away. Only the permanent buildings, which were built to stand the ravages of time, remained.

Today, we are erecting an habitation for eternity, which shall endure forever, yet many who are supposed to be people of intelligence could not give you an answer as to why they believe in Christ. We should believe in Christ

(Continued on page 15)



# The Church of God

By O. C. Wheelis

"Upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it," Matt. 16:18. Some people will say, "If we have the holiness, or Church of God, preachers to come into our community, they will tear up our churches." Now, if I or any other preacher can tear up your church, it is not what it should be. I readily admit that false teachers cause a great deal of confusion in local churches, yet I have not the least fear that the Church of God as a whole will ever be overthrown, as she was planted, or builded, by Jesus, Himself, and He says she shall not be overcome.

Let us see if we can find the Rock in the Bible to which Jesus was referring, for we are sure He had no reference to Peter's earthly body when He said, "Upon this rock I will build my church." We find in 1 Samuel 2:2, "Neither is there any rock like our God." Also, 2 Sam. 22:2, "And he said, The Lord is my rock, and my fortress, and my deliverer." So, we assume that it undoubtedly was the Word of God upon which Jesus was going to build His church. We find in St. John 1:1, "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God." Verse 14, "And the Word was made flesh, and dwelt among us, and we beheld his glory, the glory as of the only begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth."

Next we want to see something about the name of this church which Jesus was going to build. Isa. 62:2, "And the Gentiles shall see thy righteousness, and all kings thy glory; and thou shalt be called by a new name, which the mouth of the Lord shall name." In verse 1 of this chapter, notice that His people were called Zion, as well as many other places in the Old Testament; also, they were called Israel, and Stephen, in Acts 7:38, called them the Church in the wilderness. Thanks to the great God of the skies, she is no longer in the wilderness but is shining just like Isaiah said she would (2:2), "And it shall come to pass in the last days, that the mountain of the Lord's house shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills; and all nations shall flow into it."

What was the new name God's house or church was called in St. John 17:11? Jesus praying to the Father said, "Holy Father, keep through thine own name those whom thou hast given me." Verse 12, talking directly to His Father in this wonderful prayer, He said, "While I was with them in the world, I kept them in thy name." This, then, "the Father," undoubtedly was the new name of which the prophet Isaiah tells us. Notice, also, Paul's prayer in Eph. 3:14, "For this cause I bow my knees unto the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, of whom the whole family in heaven and earth is named." Here we can see the Church of God on earth, and the family of God in heaven, plainly.

What was the price Christ paid for His church? In Acts 20:28 we read, "Take heed therefore unto yourselves, and to all the flock, over the which the Holy Ghost hath made you overseers, to feed the church of God, which he hath purchased with his own blood." Here is the name again, the Church of God"; also, the great price paid by Jesus for His Church. No surprise that we as members magnify and praise His church, considering the price He paid for it; also, knowing His church is named God, Himself.

Eph. 4:11-13 tells us the kind of ministers God gave to His church, "And he gave some, apostles; and some, prophets; and some, evangelists; and some, pastors and teachers; for the perfecting of the saints, for the work of the ministry, for the edifying of the body of Christ: till we all come in the unity of the faith, and of the knowledge of the Son of God, unto a perfect man, unto the measure of the stature of the fulness of Christ." The "Church of God" is the real Bible name. Note how Paul addressed his epistles to the Church of God at Corinth: 1 Cor. 1:2; 2 Cor. 1:1.

We have shown you the kind of preachers God placed in His church, now we shall see what kind of a church He is coming to catch away. Eph. 5:25-27, "Husbands, love your wives, even as Christ also loved the church, and gave himself for it; that he might sanctify and cleanse it with

the washing of water by the word, that he might present it to himself a glorious church, not having spot, or wrinkle or any such thing; but that it should be holy and without blemish."

## Sermonette

### The Baptism of the Holy Ghost

If there ever was a time when a Bible standard for this experience was needed, it is now. Many are claiming that they received the baptism of the Holy Ghost when they were converted; others, when they received a second blessing, the laying on of hands, etc. But what saith the Scripture? It says, "And when the day of Pentecost was fully come . . . they were all filled with the Holy Ghost, and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance." Also, "While Peter yet spake these words, the Holy Ghost fell on all them which heard the word. And they of the circumcision which believed were astonished, as many came with Peter, because that on the Gentiles also was poured out the gift of the Holy Ghost. For they heard them speak with tongues, and magnify God." "Paul said unto them, Have ye received the Holy Ghost since ye believed? . . . And when Paul had laid his hands upon them, the Holy Ghost came on them; and they spake with tongues, and prophesied."

There is only one baptism of the Holy Ghost, and that is the kind which Mary the mother of Jesus, Peter, James, and John, the one hundred twenty, Cornelius, and all the other saints received. God has a pattern for the great experience that all the prophets coveted, and even angels desired to look into, and all through the Acts of the Apostles they received it "as at the beginning." "This is that which was spoken by the prophet Joel, In the last days, saith the Lord, I will pour out of my Spirit upon all flesh."

So, if you want a Bible baptism of the Holy Ghost, God will give it to you. "For the promise is unto you, and to your children, and to all them that are afar off, even as many as the Lord, our God shall call."—Earl Cripps, Miami, Florida.

# The Rapture of the Church and the

By Russell Ford, D. D., S

By God's help, I shall endeavor to set forth a brief discourse concerning the rapture of the Church, the period of tribulation, and the second advent of Jesus Christ.

## RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH

Titus 2:13

There is a tremendous amount of controversy among God's people in regard to the above named events. Some contend that the Church, which is the body of Christ, will experience, or go through the entire tribulation period; while others believe it will go through a part of it. There is much Bible evidence, however, that the Church will be fully delivered from all of it. Personally, I hold to this viewpoint.

The word "rapture" is not mentioned in the Bible. We use the word in regard to the catching away of the church in the air by Jesus, because of the great ecstasy and blessing it will afford us.

The rapture of the church and the second advent, or coming, of Jesus are by no means the same event. They are very definitely separated by the tribulation period, which will run its course of approximately seven years. Daniel 9:27. The rapture of the Church could possibly take place at any time, but the second advent of Christ could not. The rapture will occur before the seven-year period of tribulation, and the second advent of Jesus will take place immediately after it. At the time of the rapture, Christ will have a special class of people in mind; namely, the dead in Christ and the living in Christ. 1 Thess. 4:16-18. At the time of His second coming to the earth, after the tribulation period, He will have another special class of people in mind; the Jews or Israel, and also the full restoration of Jerusalem. I can safely state and be entirely endorsed by the Word of God that the Church will not go through any part of Daniel's seventieth week. The tribulation period doesn't concern the Church in any way, but mainly the Jews and their city Jerusalem. Dan. 9:24.

The New Testament Church was not revealed in Old Testament times, and so I am sure it wasn't revealed to Daniel when the prophecy concerning the seventy weeks was given to him. The seventy weeks, or 490 years, have no relationship whatsoever with the New Testament Church. Jesus said the Church would escape the entire tribulation, in St. Luke 21:36, but did not say in what manner. St. Paul was the first apostle to receive the direct revelation as mentioned in 1 Cor. 15:51. Also, in Thess. 1:10 and 5:9 there are plain references declaring the Church will escape the wrath (tribulation) to come. There are no passages of Scripture to be found in any of the four Gospels stating just how the Church will escape the wrath to come, or the tribulation period. Christ did mention the rapture in St. John 14:1-3, but did not enlarge upon it. Many believe Jesus taught the rapture to His disciples in the 24th and 25th chapters of St. Matthew, but not so. The disciples, at that particular time, knew nothing about how the Church would be constituted, although they were really the beginning of the Church through Jesus but had not been awakened to the plan of God at that time, and I am sure they had no knowledge of the rapture. They were interested only in Christ setting up an earthly kingdom in Palestine and making Israel as a saved and restored nation. Acts 1:6 further proves this statement because just prior to Jesus' ascension into heaven, the disciples again inquired of Him saying, 'Lord, wilt thou at this time restore again the kingdom to Israel?'

Therefore, the questions put forth by the disciples in St. Matt. 24:3 were purely Jewish, concerning the destruction of their temple in A. D. 70, the sign of Jesus' coming (to the earth), and the end of the world (or age). Throughout the 24th and 25th chapters of St. Matthew, Jesus is answering their questions accordingly. These questions did not concern the Church and the rapture thereof whatsoever. Until the rapture of the Church



was revealed to the apostle Paul, it was a mystery. If it had been revealed to the other disciples before Paul, then it could not have been a mystery, as stated in 1 Cor. 15:51. Saint Paul was the greatest Church apostle.

We are not to look for, nor expect any particular major prophetic fulfillment before the rapture, because it is imminent. If there is to be a great prophetic sign before the rapture, then we should stop looking for the rapture to take place, and look for the appearance of the sign. I can truly state that there are no special signs before the rapture, other than the preaching of the gospel and the warning and the office work of the Holy Spirit. (There are many outstanding signs, however which shall come to pass after the rapture of the Church but before Christ's second advent.)



# the Second Advent of Jesus Christ

D. D., Somerset, Pennsylvania

*this*

In 1 Thess. 4:16, 17, Paul tells us of the manner in which the rapture will take place: "For the Lord himself shall descend from heaven with a shout, with the voice of the archangel, and with the trump of God: and the dead in Christ shall rise first: then we which are alive and remain shall be caught up together with them in the clouds, to meet the Lord in the air: and so shall we ever be with the Lord." Saints of God, this is our blessed hope, and as Paul tells us, "comfort one another with these words."

We believe that Saint John was a type of the Church being caught up into heaven in Rev. 4:1, and we believe the Church will be caught up before any of the events of Rev. 4:2 to Chapter 19 take place. We find in 2 Thess. 2:7, 8 a very outstanding reference in regard to the Church being caught up to meet Jesus in the air before the revelation of the beast or antichrist. We believe this personal pronoun "he" in these verses refers to the Church. Paul spoke of the Church in the masculine gender in Ephesians 2:15 and also 4:13. If Christ is the Head and the Church His body, then surely it could be spoken of as masculine. Whether you believe this "He" to be the Church or not, you will agree that the verse refers to the rapture. Therefore, the Church will be taken out of the way before the wicked (antichrist) is revealed. The Church can be referred to in either the feminine or the masculine gender.

The main qualification to go in the rapture is to be "in Christ." 1 Thess. 4:16. This thought should be more enlarged upon, but time and space will not permit. However, I wish to say this: to be "in Christ" means a great deal more than some might think. It will take nothing short of a full overcomer to be "in Christ." Read Ephesians 5:26, 27 in connection with this thought.

The Holy Spirit will not be taken from the earth at the time of the rapture, as many would have us believe. The tribulation could not affect the Spirit of God, and the saints at

that time will desperately need Him. The 7th chapter of Revelation shows a great time of salvation in the tribulation week. No one could be saved in any age without the ministry of the Holy Spirit. No one could be revived or refreshed in God without the ministry of the Holy Spirit. How could the 144,000 Jews get saved without the Holy Spirit? How could anyone wash their robes white in the blood of the Lamb without the melting and leading and drawing of the Holy Spirit? One's shedding his own blood, thereby becoming a martyr, could not save him in that alone. Therefore, it will be necessary for the Holy Spirit to be present at the time of this great trouble, to aid all who will call upon Him.

## THE TRIBULATION PERIOD

The angel Gabriel told Daniel (Dan. 9:24) that seventy weeks were determined upon his people and upon their holy city, Jerusalem. The purpose of such was to finish the transgression, to make an end of sins, and to make reconciliation for iniquity, to bring in everlasting righteousness, to seal up the vision and prophecy, and to anoint the Most Holy.

These weeks are weeks of years; that is, seventy weeks of seven years each. The first sixty-nine weeks have already been fulfilled, after which Jesus was crucified, or, as stated in Dan. 9:26, the Messiah cut off; but the fulfillment of the seventieth week has not yet taken place. This time between the sixty-ninth week and the seventieth week is a parenthetical period during which God is constituting the New Testament Church.

The seventieth week will be a time of "great tribulation" known as "Jacob's trouble" such as has never been experienced, St. Matt. 24:21. It will begin after the Church is taken out of the way, when the rider on the white horse of Rev. 6:2 goes forth conquering and to conquer. This rider symbolizes the antichrist or "man of sin," and will make a covenant with Israel for one week (or seven years), which will be the seventieth week.

In the middle of the week he breaks his covenant with Israel, desecrates their holy temple by setting himself up as God, and demands their worship. This, together with the placing of the image in the temple, causes the terrible wrath of God to be poured out upon the earth as found in the 15th and 16th chapters of Revelation. From Rev. 6:1 to chapter 19:21 are recorded the events of the "great tribulation" period or "seventieth week" in the order in which they will occur. This time of trouble will be climaxed by the dreadful battle of Armageddon and the return of our Lord Jesus Christ with the armies of heaven to this earth. Zech. 14:1-3; St. Matt. 24:3-31; Rev. 14:19, 20; 19:11-21. These are just a few of the many references on this subject found throughout the entire Bible.

## THE SECOND COMING OF JESUS

"Immediately after the tribulation of those days (seventieth week) shall the sun be darkened, and the moon shall not give her light, and the stars shall fall from heaven, and the powers of the heavens shall be shaken: and then shall appear the sign of the Son of man in heaven; and then shall all the tribes of the earth mourn, and they shall see the Son of man coming in the clouds of heaven with power and great glory," St. Matt. 24:29, 30. "And his feet shall stand in that day upon the mount of Olives," etc. Zech. 14:4. "For, behold, the Lord will come with fire," etc. Isaiah 66:15. These verses of Scripture certainly refute the theory that Jesus' second coming is merely His coming in grace in redemption of a soul when He enters one's heart. His coming will be a vivid reality, in person, in majesty, and in great glory.

His coming will be a day of vengeance, fury, and blood, as well as a time of great glory, because at that time He will defeat the antichrist and his armies and the armies of the nations allied with him in the battle of Armageddon. Isa. 63:1-6; 66:15, 16; Rev. 19:15. The Word

(Continued on page 15)

# International Preparatory Institute

By Rev. Paul H. Walker, Chairman  
of the Missions Board

Home of the International  
Preparatory Institute, San  
Antonio, Texas



Our visit to the closing exercises of the International Preparatory Institute, in San Antonio, Texas, thoroughly convinced me that this department of the mission effort was answering one of the greatest needs in the mission field.

## SPIRITUALITY

The opening song, "We Are Soldiers of the Cross," just about brought us to our feet because of its seasoning with the true salt of salvation. The student body seemed to be thrilled with the presence of God as the program continued with a welcome song, solos, duets, and instrumental numbers. In this term, thirty-six were enrolled, and six of this number received the Holy Ghost.

## COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

Eight countries were represented in the Institute: Cuba, Guatemala, Honduras, Panama, Nicaragua, Mexico, Lebanon, and the United States. The student from Lebanon served for several years as a priest. Recently, he received the blessing of the Lord, and now that he has the Holy Ghost, he is determined to work for the Church of God. The Spanish students from these countries have been studying hard under the leadership of a com-



A group of students of the International  
Preparatory Institute.

petent faculty and were well indoctrinated in the teachings of the Church. They will be able to return to their home country with a thorough understanding as to the teachings of the Church and set up a lighthouse for the Church in these lands. Eternity alone will be able to tell the good effects of these efforts in the redemption of the lost. This cannot be measured in dollars and cents.

## THE GREAT COMMISSION

"Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel to every creature" could not be better carried out than to prepare the natives of these lands to return to their country with a working knowledge of the Church and the effects of the gospel. We know this, their zeal is predominant, as, with shining faces, they sang, "Up Above the Sun," "He Lives," "I Lay My Burdens Down," "We Are Soldiers of the Captain," and "Serenade in Heaven."

## ENTHUSIASM

The first night of the closing of the school was definitely marked with great enthusiasm. The church was filled and the response in the offering for I. P. I. netted over \$500. The presence of God was felt from heart to heart.

The faculty exemplified the greatest unity. There was a great objective—the training of native talent for foreign service for the Master. What a privilege! Preparing to herald the gospel! Mere compliments would hardly suffice in giving credit to the faculty for their faithful and untiring efforts. The principal, Rev. V. D. Hargrave, has dedicated himself to this great effort. Rev. Clifford Bridges, manager, is constantly on his toes in soliciting and purchasing for the school, as well as teaching. Rev. and Mrs. Grady Alford were a great inspiration, with their singing and Brother Alford's teaching. Rev. Bas-

com Stanley, state overseer of New Mexico, stated, "I. P. I. is one of the greatest inspirations in the Great Southwest. Its future is most promising."

## FACULTY AND COURSE OF STUDY

Personal Evangelism (Spanish)—Rafael Gonzales.

Personal Evangelism (English)—Willie Lee Darter.

Parliamentary Law (Spanish)—Vessie D. Hargrave.

Parliamentary Law (English)—Clifford B. Bridges.

Progress of Missions (Spanish)—Vessie D. Hargrave.

Progress of Missions (English)—Grady Alford.

Music (theory and instrumental)—Clifford B. Bridges, L. Diminguez, and Josue Rubio.

Bible Atlas (Spanish)—Samuel Gomez.

Church History (Spanish)—Samuel Gomez.

Field Work and Missions (Spanish)—Vessie D. Hargrave.

Field Work and Missions (English)—Clifford B. Bridges.

Spanish—Vessie D. Hargrave.

English—Lucille McCutchen.

English Grammar—Dorothy Heffner.

Teacher's Training and Daily Vacation Bible School—Sophia Broils and Lucille McCutchen.

Typing—Dorothy Heffner.

Old and New Testament—Josue Rubio.

Homiletics—Josue Rubio.

Bible Terminology—Josue Rubio.

Visual Aid—Willie Lee Darter.

Spanish Grammar—Leopoldo Diminguez.

Pauline Epistles—

The course presents a well rounded curriculum for I. P. I. and prepares the student for the vocation to which the Lord has called.

(Continued on page 14)

THE CHURCH OF GOD EVANGEL

# REQUESTS... for Prayer

## PRAY FOR:

Mr. Atwood, who has cancer of the head.—Sarah Price, Big Rock, Va.

My body to be healed; my husband to be saved; my home and children; me to get closer to God.—Mrs. Maxie Stiltner, Big Rock, Va.

God to heal my body.—Sarah Price, Big Rock, Va.

God to heal our bodies and draw us closer to Him; my children to be saved; unspoken request.—Bessie Driggers, Winnsboro, S. C.

My husband to be saved; that I will hear from my daughter from whom I haven't heard in four years.—Mrs. R. H. Land, Atlanta, Ga.

Mr. W. W. Ziegler to be healed; Mary Wilson, who lost her mind. She is better, but still needs prayer.—Mrs. Lizzie Alexander, Tallulah, La.

Me to be healed; my mother.—Mrs. Malcolm Fuller, Dunwoody, Va.

The healing of my neighbor's little girl; my cough; my unsaved loved ones; the Lord to give us more faith.—Geo. Dalton, Scottsboro, Ala.

The Lord to heal my body.—Sister Lula Lairson, Waltersville, Ky.

Me to be healed of heart trouble.—Mrs. J. B. Nashburn, 416 5th St., Lawrenceburg, Tenn.

An unspoken request.—A Sister.

A very special unspoken request; my husband to be saved.—A Sister, Logan, W. Va.

Healing of my body; healing of my children; my children to be saved; unspoken request.—Mrs. Vera Morris, Boston, Ga.

Me.—Mrs. Eliza Loustone, Homerville, Ga.

My father to be healed.—Mrs. W. L. Jackson, Clayville, Pa.

My sister to be healed; my loved ones to be saved.—Miss Lula Tooley, Matoaka, W. Va.

Me to be healed; my children to be saved.—Annie Ramsey, Rt. 2, York, S. C.

My baby's hand to be healed.—Mrs. Stella Gettlen, Rt. 3, Rising Fawn, Ga.

My brother to be healed of heart trouble and low blood pressure; Bennie Wells, Denniston, Ky. to be healed; my health to be restored.—Mrs. W. M. Johnson, Germantown, Ohio.

Two boys to be saved who will have to go to the electric chair; my brother to be saved; me and all of my children.—Pauline Edmonds, 1401 Whitner St., Anderson, S. C.

God to heal my neck; it has an infection.—Alpha Elmore, Elkhorn, W. Va.

My healing of cancer and for faith to trust God to the end.—Mrs. W. K. Aaron, Moorhead, Miss.

The healing of my body; my children to be saved.—Mrs. George Osborne, Jacksonville, Fla.

My mother to be healed; my husband to be saved; God to take me back; our home.—Mrs. Louise Cox, Palmer, Tenn.

The healing of my mother; she has high blood pressure, her eyes are bad, and she has an ulcer on her leg.—Mrs. Chas. R. Singo, Georgetown, Pa.

My urgent request. God has gloriously saved me.—Mrs. Beatrice Lamonte, McKeesport, Pa.

Our family to be saved and God to undertake in our home.—N. C. Meadows, Seffner, Fla.

Me to be faithful. I praise God for healing my brother's thumb of a felon.—Mrs. B. E. Fouts, Talking Rock, Ga.

Me to be completely healed and drawn closer to Him; my unsaved husband.—Mrs. M. L. Ray, Lumber City, Ga.

My brother to be healed of gallstones; my mother and stepfather to be healed; my nephew and his wife to be saved and healed; Mrs. Hancock to be healed of a severe head trouble; me to be more humble.—A Sister, Chattanooga, Tenn.

Our family to be healed of an irritation of the skin.—A Sister, Marietta, S. C.

My son, who has been crippled all his life, to be healed; my husband to be saved.—Mrs. Ruby Stutta, Charlotte, N. C.

God to undertake for my daughter and save her. She is seriously ill.—Mrs. Bessie Cornelius, Birmingham, Ala.

Mrs. W. B. Berode and husband, latter may have cancer on face.—Ohio.

My brother to be saved.—Leode Williford, Dandridge, Tenn.

Me to be healed; other requests.—Mrs. Dollie Hensley, Old Fort, N. C.

My husband and me to be healed.—Bertha Hampton, Brodhead, Ky.

My child who is at the point of death.—Mrs. Roxie Lairson, Cincinnati, Ohio.

My unsaved husband and children; my body; an unspoken request.—A Sister, Logan, W. Va.

A very urgent request.—Kilman Durden, Swainsboro, Ga.

My baby, who has some kind of drawing spells. Thirteen doctors have failed to do him any good.—Mrs. Roy Willis, Donaldsonville, Ga.

My daughter, Mrs. Elvie Rushing, who is in the hospital with spinal meningitis, not expected to live and is unsaved.—Mrs. Mary Cotton, Gadsden, Ala.

Me.—Mrs. Albert King, Pittsview, Ala.

Me to be healed.—Mrs. Pearl Dobson, Woodruff, S. C.

My husband to be saved and delivered from the drink habit; my brother and sisters and children to be saved; me to be healed.—Mrs. B. L. Fletcher, Monroe, La.

Unspoken requests. I thank and praise God for your help. God has delivered us.—A Friend.

My son in Japan to be saved.—Mrs. B. G. Byrd, Statesville, N. C.

My healing of a cancer.—Herman Clark, Lee College.

The healing of our baby.—Rev. and Mrs. Paul Brown, Weir, Kansas.

My husband to be delivered of the drink habit and turn his thoughts to home and God.—A Reader.

Me to be healed and receive the Holy Ghost.—Mrs. Callie Hendrix, Ridgway, Ill.

My brother-in-law, Frank Baltimore, to be healed of cancer of the lung.—Ida Moss, Grimsley, Tenn.

Me to be healed of sugar diabetes.—Mrs. Agnes Potter, Knoxville, Tenn.

My body to be healed; Mrs. R. S. Patrick's arm; my lost children; God to send us a revival.—Mrs. Alonzo Wright, Oak Grove, La.

My husband to be saved, sanctified, and filled with the Holy Ghost; me to always obey God.—Johnnie Mae Barton, Calhoun, Ga.

My loved ones to be saved; me to be healed of head trouble and nervousness.—Vera Visage, Walhalla, S. C.

The healing of my body; three unspoken requests.—A Sister, Mayodan, N. C.

The healing of our daughter.—Rev. D. H. Eastridge, Allen Junction, W. Va.

The healing of my two daughters; my back-slidden husband; our home; an unspoken request.—A Sister, Bluefield, Va.

My unsaved husband; us to have a happy Christian home.—Mrs. H. Edkin, Winchester, Ky.

The healing of my stomach and nerves.—Mrs. Mattie Potter, Fort Payne, Ala.

Me to be healed of low blood pressure, weak heart, and general bad health.—Mrs. Mary Lane, Lake Worth, Fla.

The healing of my body; an urgent unspoken request.—Viola Creamer, Baxley, Ga.

My husband to be saved.—Mrs. Byron Kennedy, Griffin, Ga.

Me to have more faith and be ready to go when He comes or calls.—Mrs. L. J. Cox, Colquitt, Va.

A friend who needs special prayer.—Joan Ricketts, Booneville, Miss.

Several requests for prayer.—Maude Martin, Altoona, Ala.

My daughter and her husband.—A Sister.

Me and my family; my sister who is very ill; my father who has T. B.; mother.—Roxie Lairson, Cincinnati, Ohio.

My husband to be saved; me to let my light shine for Him.—Maria Bell, Talladega, Ala.

Sister Eunice Medows; my son to be saved and healed; my sister who is a shut-in to be healed; me to be healed and drawn closer to

the Lord.—Mrs. Ollie Mae Creel, Jasper, Ala.  
The Lord to heal my body.—Mrs. Winston Dopel, Twiler, Ky.  
God to deliver me out of a bad condition; my sister to be healed and saved.—Nora Coleman, Freeburn, Ky.  
My backslidden girl to come back to God.—A Sister, Wenatchee, Wash.

## REVIVALS

**WINNSBORO, S. C.**—In our revival at Winnsboro, S. C., there were twenty saved, four sanctified, and three filled with the Holy Ghost. This was said to be one of the best revivals in several years. There were definite healings—one special one. A baby four years old, who had never walked, was healed and immediately began walking. God worked in a marvelous way in every service, for which we praise Him.—Rev. Clemon Allen.

**HEMINGWAY, S. C.**—Our revival was conducted by Mrs. G. A. Conner and Mr. and Mrs. Edgins. There were seventeen saved, eleven sanctified, three filled with the Holy Ghost, seven baptized in water, and ten added to the church. The Holy Ghost took charge in several services and we needed no other message. The revival spirit is still going strong. Several were healed and strengthened in every way, in the midst of trials and the hindering power of Satan. Pray much for us. We're on the firing line for God.—Mrs. A. B. Powell, Clerk.

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# Reports

## FROM THE FIELD

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### ERWIN DISTRICT CONVENTION

The Erwin district convention convened April 10, 1948, at Erwin, N. C., with Rev. J. R. Eason, the district pastor. Many encouraging reports were made. In fact, every church on the district gave reports of increases in every department. Good programs were made possible because we are workers together with God. Our state youth director, Rev. E. C. Thomas, reported that 50 per cent of souls saved are young people. Of course, it made our hearts to rejoice. Brother Wilson of England was the speaker for the evening service. On Sunday morning Rev. Frank Petrucelli, of Selma, spoke briefly on the subject of "Sunday School." Rev. E. W. Williams, overseer of North Carolina, brought the morning message. I felt the blessings of God and enjoyed this convention.—Sophia Petrucelli, Reporter.

### Church Has Victory

MUNDAY, Texas—I praise God for the victory for the Munday church. Sunday night, God really did work. The altar was filled with seekers. Every sinner in the building was in the altar except one. Then on Sunday night of April 4, we had another wonderful service.—Sister Effie Foreman.

### Church Blessed in Many Ways

BALTIMORE, Md.—I really praise the Lord tonight for all His love and blessings. I praise Him for the good revival which closed on January 24. It lasted three and one half weeks. The evangelist was Rev. Luther Turner, with his wife.

God truly did bless us in this revival. Brother Turner surely preached the Word of God with power, and God honored his work by giving us thirteen souls saved, ten sanctified, six filled with the Holy Ghost, and six added to the church. The church was built up in faith and courage. Brother Turner's wonderful messages filled our souls.

Also, I praise the Lord for our good pastor and wife, Brother and Sister J. Carl Hughes. We do appreciate them and their good work, of visiting the sick, cheering the sad, and helping those in trouble—caring for each little lamb just like a good shepherd.

We appreciate every effort of Brother Hughes to secure our radio broadcast, each Sunday afternoon from 2 until 2:30 o'clock over Station WBMD. God is blessing our program in bringing new people to church, and helping the sick and shut-ins. People are being saved while listening to the program. We praise God for all these blessings.—Margaret Varner, Reporter.

### How the Lord has Blessed Us

CHRISTIANBURG, Virginia—Today we would like to tell you how the Lord has blessed us here. Since our state convention last August, there have been about fifteen additions to the church. We have had several good revivals. The evangelists were Rev. C.M. Roseman, of Kannapolis, North Carolina; Sister Bessie Puckett, of Newport News, Virginia; and Rev. and Mrs. J. W. Brummett, of Roderfield, West Virginia, who are with us at this time. The church is being blessed by their ministry.

We have a good Y. P. E. The attendance is above one hundred. On Sunday, May 2, our Sunday School attendance was 162, which set a new record. We have bought new seats, covered the church, bought Celotex to decorate the inside of the church, and ordered a new furnace. Also, we have just completed two more rooms on the parsonage, and furnished them. Brethren passing this way find a welcome at Christianburg.—J. B. Holcomb, Pastor.

CAMBRIDGE, Md.—I want to take

this opportunity to praise the Lord for the way He is blessing our young people in Cambridge. We just closed a youth revival, with Sister Rose Finelli and Sister Angie Yargo in charge. This meeting was a wonderful success, with six saved and two filled with the Holy Ghost. We certainly appreciate our good pastor and his wife, Brother and Sister DeFino, who have worked so faithfully to promote the cause of Christ and see His church move forward. We recently closed a Buffalo contest in which we raised \$275 for missions.

Our district convention was held here in Cambridge, April 24 and 25. Saturday night, the church was filled, and Brother Morefield brought a wonderful message. The Sunday services were filled with the blessings of God. Reverend McMaster, of Seaford, brought the morning message, which was so much enjoyed and brought tears to many eyes. God's presence was with us, and \$450 was raised for missions. Jesus said, "Go ye into all the world, and preach the gospel." We can't all go but we can help send those who can go, and we shall be partakers of their reward.

The devil is not asleep here in Cambridge; he is fighting hard to defeat the cause of Christ, but I am glad that God is still on the throne and will always stand by His people and help them to be overcomers. So let us not be weary in well doing, for in due season we shall reap if we faint not. Scoffers say the church will soon go down, but thank God I am expecting it to go up. The word says, "When these things begin to come to pass, then look up . . . for your redemption draweth nigh." Pray for us that we may fight the good fight of faith and win many souls for our Lord.—Marie Ruark, President of Y. P. E.

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## Testimonies

### He Gives Me Strength

AIKEN, S.C.—I thank the Lord for healing my body. He has healed me and my family many times, and He gives me strength when there seems to be none within myself.

I desire to live at all times so I can meet the Lord with a smile and a pleasing look.

Please pray for my husband to be healed and to receive the Holy Ghost.—Mrs. M. B. Shores, Rt. 3.

### Jesus Never Fails

SPARTANBURG, S. C.—Praise God for His great love and healing power!

Some few weeks ago, I sent in a request for prayer and an anointed handkerchief. Praise God, I am some better now, and I am still looking for Jesus to completely heal me. I know He is able, for He has healed me several times before.—Helen Irene Parham, 188 East Wood St.

### Asked Believing and Received

COLFAX, La.—Praise the Lord for His healing power. I promised Him I would testify of my healing. Praise His dear name! We asked in Jesus' name and I was healed. We asked believing and we received. I thank Him because I am healed.—Sister Jessie Mae Lasyone, Rt. 3.

### He Is Able to Heal

DILLON, S. C.—I praise the Lord for what He has done for me. I promised the Lord if He would heal me and my baby and my little grandson, I would testify of it through the *Evangel*. I had suffered over three weeks with the back of my head and neck. I requested prayer, and for some to fast. I am feeling so good this morning I just can't praise Him enough for it. I am glad we have one to whom we can look and He is able to heal us. Praise His name!—Mrs. Nellie Berry, Rt. 1, Box 144.

### All of Large Family Believe in Holiness

PENNSBORO, W. Va.—I want every one to know that the God who rules and reigns on high has done wonders for me.

I am one of a large family of eleven

children, with two deceased; the rest, also Mother and Dad, are all Christians and believe in this holy way.

This is my first time to testify through the *Evangel*. I am a subscriber of the paper and love to read the reports, testimonies, and sermons.

In the year of 1939, I became sick and was bedfast for about a year. I was in one room for about eight months and never stepped on the ground. At different times I thought I was leaving. Many prayed for me and a request was sent to the *Evangel*. God undertook for me and I began to get some better. My strength came gradually. In a space of time, I was able to enter the ministry.

The Lord blessed my efforts and many received experiences with God; others were healed. Also, he has healed in our home many times.

Continue to pray for me. I have been a member of the Church of God for thirty-seven years. I love the Church and desire to do all I can for it.—Evangelist Porter Richards.

### Better to Be Alone with Jesus

JACKSON, Wyo.—Greetings to you in the precious name of our Lord. I truly praise Him for what He means to me. I don't know what I should do without Jesus, for it is better to be alone with Him than to go along with the pleasure-loving crowd. I am going through a very severe trial now, but, glory to His precious name, I know He will see me through. I need to be healed. I have an unspoken request, also. Please pray that my husband will be saved soon. Thanks for everything and may God's best be yours.—Pansy Adams.

### Have Sweet Peace in My Soul

SIDNEY, OHIO—I praise the Lord for His sweet peace in my soul today, and because I know I am a child of the King. I was hungry and He gave me meat, thirsty and He gave me drink; I was naked and He clothed me.—Mrs. Alonzo Rice.

### Holiness Has an Attraction

CAMDEN, S. C.—I am praising the Lord because He saved my soul that was lost several years ago. No doubt, Mother, and perhaps others, were praying for me, but I was praying, too, when I found Jesus so precious to my soul. I prayed through and I'm not ashamed of Jesus, for He has stood by me in trials and temptations and healed my body many times. My husband was saved in a holiness meeting before I knew him, and he gave up his tobacco and intoxicating drinks. Now he isn't satisfied to stay away from these meetings. He and I are Church of God members.—Dora McCathern.

### He Is Worthy of All Praise

I can never praise God enough, because my nerves were bad and He healed me. I thank Him for saving my soul and sanctifying me and giving me the Holy Ghost. I also thank everyone who has prayed for me.—Nehemiah Finley.

### Praise Our God!

SOUTH WINONA, Miss.—Just a word of praise and thanks to God, for I can never thank Him enough for what He has done for me.—Omar Christion.

### Many Times He Touches Me

BIG SANDY, W. Va.—I praise the Lord for what He means to me and for touching my body frequently. Many times I suffer and no one here at home knows it. I truly thank Him for saving my soul from sin, and I want to do His will.—Marie Bishop.

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# ..REVIVALS..

**BASTIAN, Va.**—I praise God for the great revival that just closed here. Sister Bessie Puckett did the preaching. There were twenty-six saved, eighteen sanctified, twenty-one baptized with the Holy Ghost, fourteen baptized in water, and seventeen added to the church. Several were healed of various diseases. Pray for us here, and pray for our good pastor, Brother H. M. Burchett, and his good wife. Sister Puckett delivered soul-stirring messages every night. The church was blessed and greatly revived. One little sister prayed through and requested to be baptized that same night, so we all went to the water near by. Seven went down to be baptized that same night. The very bank was charged with the power of God. Pray much for us.—Kate Lovill.

**CEDAR BLUFF, BAPTIST VALLEY, Va.**—It gives our hearts great joy to have the happy privilege to report two real good revivals, one in Cedar Bluff, Virginia, and one in Baptist Valley, Virginia.

As pastor, we had the privilege of attending the services every night for seven weeks and seeing God work in a wonderful way. The mighty Holy Ghost came down in all the services and moved on hearts in convicting power. The results were about the same in both churches. Altogether, there were thirty-two saved, fifteen sanctified, and fourteen filled with the Holy Ghost. Eleven were instantly healed of goiters. The greatest miracle performed by the power of God in these revivals was the healing of a boy who had had an affliction on his right arm and hand since birth. God instantly put bones in his fingers, and the next day he could tie his own slippers and wash his left hand. Something he hadn't done in all his life. Our evangelist was Sister Della R. Patrick, of Roanoke Rapids, North Carolina. She is a wonderful woman of God and we can recommend her as a great evangelist in the Church of God.

To our God goes all the praise, honor, and glory. Pray for us here.—Howard Kiser, Pastor.

**MT. PLEASANT, Tenn.**—We have just closed one of the greatest revivals

this church has ever had. Rev. H. C. Jenkins was the evangelist, and Sister Jenkins is a very good pianist and was a great blessing. Seventeen were saved, thirteen sanctified, ten filled with the Holy Ghost, thirteen baptized in water, and eight added to the church. Pray for us that the church will continue to grow.—A. J. Durham, Pastor.

The Tremont Avenue Church of God, in Greenville, S. C., has just closed one of the most successful revivals in recent years. These services were conducted by Evangelist Ray Hughes.

Reverend Hughes is one of the most outstanding young ministers it has yet been my privilege to hear. His messages were dynamic, inspirational, and soul-stirring. The spirit of evangelism seemed to grip the entire congregation. There was much fasting, praying and Bible reading. The results were eighty-seven saved, forty-seven sanctified, forty-one baptized in the Holy Ghost, forty-one added to the church, and many cold and indifferent Christians rededicated themselves to the Lord.

I am sure the events of this revival will find a place among our most pleasant and unforgettable memories.—J. Frank Spivey, Assistant Pastor.

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(Continued from page 10)

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Honduras has one church, 6 missions, \$2,500 in property, 62 members, and 1 Sunday School, with 125 in attendance.

British Honduras has 2 churches, \$200 in property, 14 members, and 2 Sunday Schools, with 39 in attendance.

Costa Rica has 1 church, \$1,200 in property, 27 members, and 1 Sunday School, with 30 in attendance.

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## RAPTURE OF THE CHURCH . . .

(Continued from page 9)

teaches that He will stain His garments with the blood of His enemies. The specific purpose of His return is to save Israel (Jews) from extermination by the antichrist, and to set up the kingdom period on this earth. Then the antichrist will be cast into the lake of fire, and the false prophet with him. An angel will come down from heaven at approximately this time and bind Satan with a great chain and cast him into the bottomless pit, to remain there for a thousand years. Rev. 20:1-3.

His second coming will be a glorious day for Israel, as well as the sheep nations that will be accounted worthy to enter the millennium. After Jesus judges the nations (in the valley of Jehoshaphat, Joel 3:12; St. Matt. 25:31-46), He will place Israel in her rightful position in Palestine and take over the reigns of the nations throughout the entire earth, thus beginning the millennial kingdom. The Word of God is so full of this prophecy that it is like a beautiful pattern woven throughout. The phrase "that day" invariably refers to this time, and will be a time of peace and great joy. "And they shall beat their swords into plowshares, and their spears into pruninghooks: nation shall not lift up sword against nation, neither shall they learn war anymore." This portion of Scripture is found in the second chapter of Isaiah and is a vivid portrayal of the millennium as well as His return. Christ must reign for a thousand years (thus we use the word "millennium," meaning a thousand years of happy government), or until all enemies are put under His feet; and the last enemy to be destroyed is death. For more extensive details on the millennium, study the following Scriptures: Isa. 2:1-4; 9:7; 19:19-24; 30:26; Isa. 35:1-10; 65:18-25; Dan. 7:14; Joel. 3:16-21; Amos 9:11-15; Ezek. 34:11-31; 37th chapter; Micah 4:1-4; Zech. 2:11; 8:20-23; Zech. 14:16-21; Acts 15:16; Rev. 11:15; Rev. 20:1-7; etc.

During the millennium, the curse on the earth will be partially lifted and will be completed through the fires of renovation. The kingdom of our Lord Jesus Christ will never be removed. Praise God! It will continue to function through the renovation and forever. Hebrews 12:26-28; 1 Cor. 15:24-28; Revelation, chapters 21 and 22.

Praise God for the glorious blessings awaiting the faithful!

## A GOOD BUILDING

(Continued from page 6)

because He is the Only Begotten of the Father, full of grace and truth, with power to save from sin all who will come to Him and accept Him as their Saviour and King.

If our foundation is not steadfast, the world will consider us as just a noisy, eccentric people, and when something new comes along, we will forsake our religion for it.

We are reminded of Nehemiah as he built the wall of Jerusalem. He knew what his objectives were, just as we know our aim is to see Christ with His nail-scarred hands and pierced side. When Sanballat heard they were working on the wall, he mocked and ridiculed, while some of his subordinates made sarcastic remarks about the work they were accomplishing. Tobiah the Ammonite said even a fox would tear the wall down, should he pass that way. Nehemiah would not be discouraged, but continued his work. Neh. 4:6, "So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work." Then Sanballat and his henchmen were wroth and charged their tactics, as evidenced by the words in Neh. 6:2. Nehemiah knew what they were planning to do and sent Sanballat word, saying he was doing a good work, so why should he leave it and come down to him?

Neither is the devil using the same methods any more, but is seeking to reason with God's people according to man's standards, showing the way we

have prospered, and saying, "Come down off the wall for just a bit. I want to talk something over with you. If you will just let up a little on some things, you will grow by leaps and bounds and get the best people in town as members."

Praise God, we have some of the best people on God's earth now, with royal blood flowing in their veins, and just waiting for King Jesus to come for us and set up His kingdom here on this earth. Ministers, pastors, don't hearken to Satan. He will tear down our entire religious structure if we yield one bit to him. Nehemiah told Sanballat he was doing a good work, and we, as Church of God people, are doing good work and have no time to come down and mix up with the world. A wall is no stronger than the mortar with which it is built. (Ezek. 13:11, 12.) If you mix sin with your spiritual life, your structure will not stand when Satan and the powers of hell are marshalled against you. So be sure to use only that which is tried and proven. The Church of God doctrine has been the means of many drunkards, thieves, and murderers finding that sure foundation and superstructure, the Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

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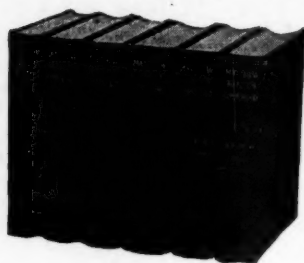
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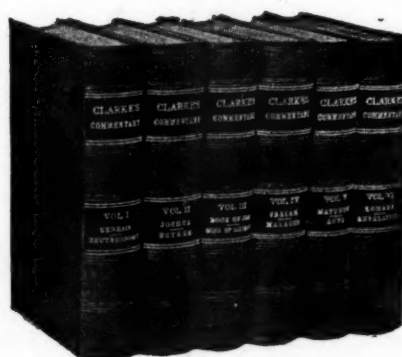
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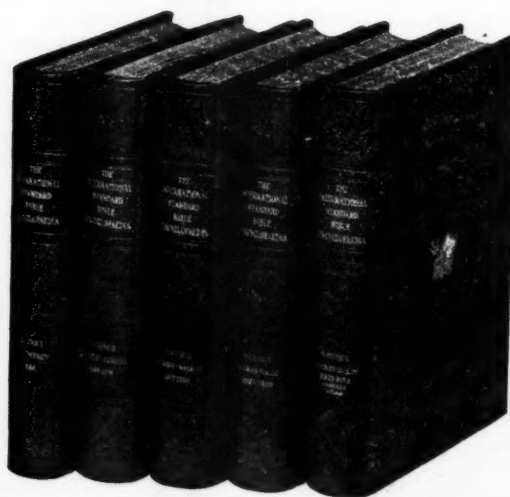
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